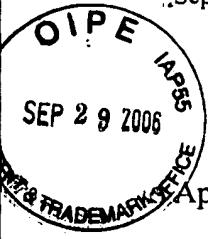


FFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants: Shawn D. Stad, Christopher Rogers, Michael D. Sorrenti and Patrick Fatyol

Application No.: 10/616,506 Group: 3733

Filed: July 8, 2003 Examiner: Daniel J. Davis

Confirmation No.: 1774

For: ATTACHMENT MECHANISM FOR SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:	
9-22-06	Jane Morgan
Date	Signature
JANE MORGAN	
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment and replacement FIG. 6 for filing in the above-identified application.

- [] Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a Small Entity Statement previously submitted.
- [] A Small Entity Statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

The claims fee has been calculated as shown below:

					SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDIT. FEE	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	25	MINUS	* 25		X \$25	\$ []	X \$50	\$ 0
INDEP	4	MINUS	** 4		X \$100	\$ []	X \$200	\$ 0
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM								
* not fewer than 20 ** not fewer than 3								
TOTAL= \$ <u> 0 </u>								
TOTAL= \$ <u> 0 </u>								

* not fewer than 20

** not fewer than 3

TOTAL= \$ 0 TOTAL= \$ 0 **The Application Size Fee has been calculated as shown below:**

(Effective for cases filed on or after December 8, 2004)

			SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
Actual Sheets (Including current amendment)	Highest No. of Sheets Paid For (At least 100)	No. of Additional Units Required (Increments of 50 sheets)	Rate	Total Amount Owed	Rate	Total Amount Owed
			X \$125	\$[]	X \$250	\$[]
Payment Sufficient for up to [] Sheets						

Petition for Extension of Time

- [] Applicant hereby petitions to extend the time to respond to the [] dated [] for [] month(s) from [] to []. The appropriate fee is set forth below.
- [] [For action-specific language in an extension of time, go to insert, file, public folders, firm templates, and select the appropriate paragraph.]

Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0380 for the following fees:

[] Petition for [] month Extension of Time	\$ _____
[] Claims Fee	\$ _____
[] Application Size Fee	\$ _____
[] Other Fees: _____ _____	\$ _____ \$ _____
	TOTAL: \$ <u> 0 </u>

A check is enclosed in payment of the following fees:

[] Petition for [] month Extension of Time	\$ _____
[] Claims Fee	\$ _____
[] Application Size Fee	\$ _____
[] Other Fees: _____ _____	\$ _____ \$ _____
	TOTAL: \$ <u> 0 </u>

- [X] Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees that may be due in this matter to Deposit Account No. 08-0380. A copy of this letter is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By _____
N. Scott Pierce

Registration No.: 34,900
Telephone (978) 341-0036
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Concord, Massachusetts 01742-9133

Dated:

9/22/06



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9-22-06

Date

Signature

Jane Morgan

JANE MORGAN

Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 22, 2006 in the above-identified application. Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Please amend the application as follows: